

09/666,086

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently Amended) [The] A network system as recited in claim 1, including a server device and terminal devices connected to the sever device via a network, wherein:

said server device comprises:

input information receiving means for receiving predetermined input information sent from the terminal devices via the network;

count means for counting in accordance with input information that said input information receiving means receives;

~~said information providing means includes voice providing means for providing voice data corresponding to information in accordance with the value counted by said count means;~~

voice information providing means for providing voice information in accordance with the value that the counting means counts; and

sending means for sending information that the information providing means provides, and voice information that the voice information providing means provides, via said network to the terminal devices; wherein

said terminal devices comprise:

input means for inputting said predetermined input information;

input information sending means for sending input information input by said input means via the network, and controlling the input information receiving means of said server device to receive;

means for receiving information sent from the sending means of the servcr device via the

09/666,086

network and voice information; and

~~said output means includes voice output means for outputting a voice corresponding to the voice data which is provided by said voice providing means and sent by said sending means and then received by said receiving means~~ information and voice information that the receiving means receives.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~<sup>A</sup> network system as recited in claim 1, including a server device, and terminal devices connected to the sever device via a network, wherein[[::]] said terminal devices connected to said server device are divided into groups, [[::]] and said server device comprises:

input information receiving means for receiving predetermined input information sent from the terminal devices via the network;  
~~said count means is one counting means for counting for every group of said terminal devices; and, in accordance with input information that said input information receiving means receives; said information providing means provides said terminal devices with various for providing information which differ from each group of said terminals, in accordance with a counted result for every group as counted by said count means;~~

sending means for sending information that the information providing means provides, to the terminal devices, via said network; wherein

said terminal devices comprise:  
input means for inputting said predetermined input information;  
input information sending means for sending input information input by said input means via the network, and controlling the input information receiving means of said servcr device to

09/666,086

receive:

means for receiving information sent from the sending means of the server device via the network, and voice information; and

output means for outputting information and voice information that the receiving means receives.

4. (Currently Amended) A network system including a server device and terminal devices connected to said server device through a network, wherein:

    said server device includes a memory for storing a program, a processor for executing the program, and a first communications device for sending and receiving information to and from said terminal devices,

    the first communications device receiving predetermined input information sent from said terminal devices through the network,

    the processor counting in accordance with the input information received by the first communications device,

    the processor generating information and voice information corresponding to the counted value, and

    said server device sending the generated information and voice information to said terminal devices from the first communications device through the network;

    each of said terminal devices

    includes a memory for storing a program, a processor for executing the program, an input device for inputting information, an output device for outputting information, and a second communications device for sending and receiving to and from said server devices,

09/666,086

inputs the predetermined input information through the input device,  
sends the input information input from the input device to the second  
communications device from the second communications device through the network,  
the second communications device receiving the information and voice information  
from the communications device of said server device through the network, and  
each of said terminal deices outputting the information and voice information  
received by the second communications from the output device.

5. (Currently Amended) An information server system which serves participants of a  
network service with information through a network, comprising:

accepting means for accepting predetermined information sent from the participants of the  
network service through the network;  
count means for counting in accordance with the predetermined information which said  
accepting means has accepted; and  
information providing means for providing information including voice information  
corresponding to a value counted by said count means to the participants of the network service  
through the network.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for serving information, in a network system  
including a server device and terminal devices connected to each other through a network, from  
said server device to said terminal devices, said method comprising:

an inputting step of inputting predetermined input information from said terminal devices;  
an input information sending step of sending the input information input in said inputting

09/666,086

step from said terminal devices to said server device through the network;  
a counting step of counting according to the input information which is sent in said input information sending step and received by said server device;  
an information providing step, as performed by said server device, providing information corresponding to a value counted in said counting step;  
a voice information providing step of the server device providing voice information in accordance with the value counted in the count step;  
a sending step of sending the information provided in said information providing step and voice information provided in said voice information providing step, to said terminal devices from said server device through the network; and  
an outputting step of outputting from said terminal devices the information and voice information sent in said sending step and received by said terminal device.

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7. (Currently Amended) A method for providing information to participants of a network service through a network, said method including providing the participants of the network service through the network with information including voice information corresponding to a value counted in accordance with predetermined information sent from the participants of the network service through the network.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The server device as recited in claim 8, wherein said information providing means includes~~

09/666,086

A server device which is connected to terminal devices through a network, comprising:  
input information receiving means for receiving predetermined input information sent from  
the terminal device through said network;

counting means for counting in accordance with input information received by the input  
information receiving means;

information providing means for providing information in accordance with a value counted  
by the counting means;

voice providing means for providing voice information according to the value counted by  
said counting means; and

sending means for sending information provided by the information providing means and  
voice information provided by the voice information providing means to the terminal device  
through the network.

10. (Original) The server device of claim 9, wherein said voice providing means provide  
voice information having a modified voice representation which is output in accordance with the  
value counted by said counting means.

11. (Currently Amended) The server device as recited in claim [[8]]9, wherein:  
~~the predetermined input information is information representing logging in/out of said~~  
~~terminal devices to/from the information provided by said information providing means; and~~  
~~said counting means counts up when the input information represents the logging in of said~~  
~~terminal devices, and counts down when the input information represents the logging out of said~~  
~~terminal devices.~~

09/666,086

said counting means includes any of (1) means for counting for every group. number of items of input information that the input information receiving means receives. (2) means for counting number of log-in people to the net work system at that time. for every group, in accordance with input information that the input information receiving means receives, or (3) means for counting up for every group, when said input information is information indicating log-in to the server device. and counting down for every group, when information indicates log-out.

12. (Currently Amended) The server device as recited in claim [[8]]9, wherein:

the predetermined input information is information and voice information, which is input from said terminal devices, as regards contents of the information provided by said information providing means; and

    said counting means counts in accordance with the input information which is received by said input information receiving means at a predetermined interval.

13. (Currently Amended) The server device as recited in claim 12, wherein:

    the predetermined input information includes various types of the contents of the information and voice information provided by said information providing means; and

    said counting means is means for counting for every type of the contents of the input information.

14. (Currently Amended) The server device as recited in claim 8 A server device connected to terminal device through a network, wherein:

09/666,086

said terminal devices connected to said server device through the network are divided into groups;

said counting means counts for every group of said terminals; and

said information providing means provides said terminal devices with various information which differ from each group of said terminals, in accordance with a counted result for each group as counted by said counting means.

and wherein the server device comprises:

input information receiving means for receiving predetermined input information sent from the terminal device through the network;

counting means for counting for every group of terminal devices, in accordance with input information received by input information receiving means;

information providing means for providing said terminal devices with information which differ from each group of said terminal, in accordance with a counted result for every group as counted by said counting means.

15. (Original) The server device as recited in claim 14, further comprising user information registration means for registering information regarding users of said terminal devices which are connected to said server device through the network, and

wherein said terminal devices connected to said server device through the network are divided into groups in accordance with the information registered by said user information registration means, and

said counting means refers to the user information registration means based on the input information received by said input information receiving means, and counts for each group of

09/666,086

said terminal devices.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~A server device which is connected to terminal devices through a network and includes a memory for storing a program, a processor for executing the program and a communications device for sending and receiving information to and from said terminal devices, wherein:~~

~~the communications device receives predetermined input information sent from said terminal devices through the network;~~

~~the processor counts in accordance with the input information received by the communications device;~~

~~the processor generates information in accordance with a value counted by the processor, and~~

~~the communications device sends the generated information to said terminal devices through the network.~~

The server device as recited in claim 14, wherein said counting means includes any of (1) means for counting for every group, number of items of input information that the input information receiving means receives, (2) means for counting number of log-in people to the network system at that time for every group, in accordance with input information that the input information receiving means receives, or (3) means for counting up for every group, when said input information is information indicating log-in to the server device, and counting down for every group, when information indicates log-out.

09/666,086

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The server device as recited in claim 16, wherein the information generated by the processor includes voice information corresponding to the counted value.~~

A server device which can communicate with terminal devices through a network, including a memory for storing a program, a processor for executing the program, and a communications device for sending and receiving information to and from said terminal devices, wherein:

said communications device receiving predetermined input information sent from the terminal devices through the network;

said processor counting in accordance with input information received by the communications device;

said processor generating information including voice information corresponding to the counted value; and sending the generated information from the communications terminal to the terminal devices through the network.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~The server device as recited in claim 1617, wherein:~~  
the predetermined input information is information which is input, in said terminal devices, as regards contents of the information generated by the processor and sent from the communications device; and  
the processor counts in accordance with the input information received by the communications device at a predetermined interval.

09/666,086

19. (Currently Amended) A computer readable recording medium which records a program making a computer device which is connected to terminal devices through a network function as:

input information receiving means for receiving predetermined input information sent from said terminal devices through the network;

counting means for counting in accordance with the input information received by said input information receiving means;

information providing means for providing information in accordance with a value counted by said counting means; and

voice information providing means for providing voice information in accordance with a value counted by said counting means; and

sending means for sending the information provided by said information providing means and voice information providing means to said terminal devices through the network.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave and sent through a communications path, said signal making a computer device which is connected to a plurality of terminal devices through a network to function as a computer device connected to terminal devices through a network as:

input information receiving means for receiving predetermined input information sent from said terminal devices through said network;

counting means for counting in accordance with the input information received by said input information receiving means; and

information providing means for providing information in accordance with a value counted

09/666,086

by said counting means; and

voice information providing means for providing voice information in accordance with a value counted by said counting means; and

sending means for sending the information provided by said information providing means and voice information providing means to the terminal devices through the network.

21. (New) A server device which can communicate with terminal devices through a network, the server device including a memory for storing a program, a processor for executing the program, and a communications device for sending and receiving information to and from said terminal devices,

*R1*  
the communications device receiving predetermined input information sent from said terminal devices that are divided into groups beforehand, through the network,

the processor counting for every group, in accordance with the input information received by the communications device,

the processor generating for every group, information including voice information corresponding to the counted value, and

said server device sending the generated information to said terminal devices from the communications device through the network.

22. (New) The server device as recited in claim 21, wherein said processor includes any of (1) means for counting number of items of input information that the first communications device receives, (2) means for counting for every group, number of log-in people to the net work system at that time, in accordance with input information that the first

09/666,086

communications device receives, or (3) means for counting up for every group, when said input information received by the first communications device is information indicating log-in to the server device, and counting down for every group, when information indicates log-out.

23. (New) A computer readable recording medium which records a program wherein the program makes a computer device which is communicable with terminal devices through the network to function as:

input information receiving means for receiving predetermined input information sent from said terminal devices, which are divided into groups beforehand, through the network;

counting means for counting for every group, in accordance with the input information received by said input information receiving means;

information providing means for providing information in accordance with a value counted by said counting means; and

sending means for sending the information provided by said information providing means to said terminal devices through the network.

24. (New) A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave and sent through a communications path, said signal making a computer which is connected to a plurality of terminal devices through a network to function as:

input information receiving means for receiving predetermined input information sent from said terminal devices which are divided into groups beforehand, through the network;

counting means for counting for every group, in accordance with the input information received by said input information receiving means;

09/666,086

information providing means for providing information in accordance with a value counted by said counting means; and

sending means for sending the information provided by said information providing means to said terminal devices through the network. .

25. (New) The network system as recited in claim 3, wherein said counting means includes any of (1) means for counting number of items of input information that the input information receiving means receives for every group, (2) means for counting for every group, number of log-in people to the net work system at that time, in accordance with input information that the input information receiving means receives, or (3) means for counting up for every group, when said input information received by the input information receiving means is information indicating log-in to the server device, and counting down for every group, when information indicates log-out.

26. (New) The network system as recited in claim 4, wherein the processor includes any of (1) means for counting number of items of input information that the first communications device receives, (2) means for counting for every group, number of log-in people to the net work system at that time, in accordance with input information that the first communications device receives, or (3) means for counting up for every group, when said input information received by the fist communications device is information indicating log-in to the server device, and counting down for every group, when information indicates log-out.

27. (New) The information providing system as recited in claim 5, wherein said

09/666,086

counting means includes any of (1) means for counting number of items of input information that the input information receiving means receives, (2) means for counting number of log-in people to the net work system at that time, in accordance with input information that the input information receiving means receives, or (3) means for counting up when said input information received by the input information receiving means is information indicating log-in to the server device, and counting down when information indicates log-out.

28. (New) An information server system which serves participants of a network service with information through a network, comprising:

accepting means for accepting predetermined information sent from the participants in a plurality of groups, of the network service through the network;

counting means for counting for every group, in accordance with the predetermined information said accepting means has accepted; and

information providing means for providing information for every group, corresponding to a value counted by said counting means for every group, to the participants of the network service through the network.

29. (New) A method for providing information to participants of a network service through a network, said method including

providing the participants of the network service, who are divided into groups, through the network with information corresponding to a value counted for every group, in accordance with predetermined information sent from the participants of the network service through the network.

09/666,086

30. (New) The network system as recited in claim 2, wherein said counting means includes any of (1) means for counting number of items of input information that the input information receiving means receives, (2) means for counting number of log-in people to the network system at that time, in accordance with input information that the input information receiving means receives, or (3) means for counting up when said input information is information indicating log-in to the server device, and counting down when information indicates log-out.